Ref. 3

(19) [Japanese Patent Office emblem] JAPANESE PATENT OFFICE

(54) ELECTRONIC CAMERA AND ITS OPERATION CONTROL METHOD

(57) Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To record a recognized character in the form of text data when an object including the character is photographed by recording the text data representing the recognized character on a recording medium.

SOLUTION: Prior to photographing an object, a user operates a mode changeover switch 31, and when a character photograph mode is set, image data representing an object image obtained by photographing are stored temporarily in a memory 17 and inputted to a CPU 10. The image data area converted by a CPU 10 to image data representing a black-and-white light and shade image, which is threshold processed. A corresponding character is found in the binary data by referring to a dictionary memory 25 and recognized. Once the character is recognized, the image data representing the character are converted to text data. The converted text data are read out of the CPU 10 and recorded on a memory card 40. Through a character recognizing process, shading of the image data is corrected, a character area is determined, and an image representing the character is cut out.